

## Samuel Harris Fund for Children's Dental Health Grants Program

Grants of up to \$5,000 each are offered to non-profit organizations and agencies that sponsor oral health instruction for mothers/caregivers to help reduce the incidence of early childhood caries. Approximately 17 grants will be awarded in 2012. The application deadline is the third Monday in April.

### GRANT GUIDELINES

**Purpose, Description, and Objectives:** The Harris Grant program supports the Access to Care mission pillar of the American Dental Association Foundation (ADAF). In 1996 Dr. Samuel Harris provided a \$250,000 matching grant to the then ADA Health Foundation to establish an endowment fund dedicated to the prevention of childhood caries, and to promote oral health promotion and education for disadvantaged children. The fund was established in 1997 following successful fundraising from other donors, and another gift from Dr. Harris followed. Since 1999, the Harris Fund has awarded grants to selected applicants whose oral health programs are designed to improve and maintain children's oral health through outreach, primary prevention, and education.

More recently the focus of the grant awards has been to fund parent/caregiver education programs to prevent early childhood caries in babies and toddlers by circumventing primary oral bacterial infection in infants before damage is incurred.

**Dollar Amount and Number of Grants Available:** Competitive grants of up to \$5,000 will be awarded solely for programs that provide prenatal and postnatal oral health instruction for mothers/caregivers. The total amount and number of grants made in a given year will depend on the budget needs presented in the applications, and the amount of funds available at the time. The final decision regarding, the number, timing, and amount of grants is solely within the purview of the ADAF Board of Directors. Approximately 17 grants will be awarded in 2012.

**Eligibility Criteria (Target Audience):** The ADAF will accept proposals from non-profit organizations and government agencies that sponsor early childhood caries prevention (ECC) education programs for mothers/caregivers of infants in the United States and its territories.

**Application Submission and Review Processes:** In order to apply for a Samuel Harris Fund Grant, please complete and submit the "Grant Proposal Summary Form" (attached along with the information listed below. Please number each subsequent page of the proposal. Please type on one side of the page only. Do not bind, staple, or place the proposal in a folder. Limit submission to six (6) total pages including Grant Proposal Summary Form. Please include a description of:

- the specific content of the program that is designed to improve oral health awareness education and early childhood caries prevention efforts which demonstrate consistency with national guidance (see <http://www.ada.org/2057.aspx>) and (<http://www.ada.org/3034.aspx?currentTab=1>), and which demonstrate originality, creativity, and innovation;
- a defined method for measuring the degree to which the target audience will acquire new skills and knowledge. Applications must describe how metrics of success in educating the target audience will be, or are, measured and reported;
- the potential for, or history of, continuous program operation;
- the demonstrated community and inter-professional involvement including volunteer support;
- a detailed proposed budget with details about how grant funds will be utilized; and
- the completed proposal and application information furnished by the ADAF.
- do not submit additional materials such as videos or promotional gifts because these items will not be duplicated or submitted to the Harris Fund Advisory Committee.
- The Foundation discourages inclusion of a cover letter or correspondence because these items will not be provided to the Committee. Please write all application information within the six page proposal. Ship complete proposal to: ADA Foundation; Attn: Harris Grants; 211 E. Chicago Avenue; Chicago, IL 60611
- A completed form W-9.

**Evaluation of Applications:** Proposals will be ranked by the ADAF Harris Fund Advisory Committee and grants awarded by the ADA Foundation Program Committee based on the criteria listed herein. A Likert scale of 1 through 5 is used to rank each criterion listed on the application, with 5 being outstanding and 1 being poor. Grant decisions and award amounts are in the sole discretion of the ADAF Board of Directors.